performance of recently launched Integrated Services Digital Network is not upto the mark;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for such poor performance of ISDN;

(c) the total investment made by Government so far for introducing ISDN; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to remove bottlenecks in the functioning of ISDN and to made it functional?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) No, Sir. The CMD, MTNL has said that the number of subscribers registered for provision of ISDN service is not large, in other words the damand for ISDN is not picking up.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Investment made in MTNL: Delhi: Rs. 3.36 crore (approx.) Mumbai: Rs. 71.20 lakhs (approx.)

(d) The following efforts are being made to provide the service further:

(i) Opening of more international routes. Already international access on ISDN has been opened to 5 Countries viz., USA, UK, Germany, Japan and Singapore.

(ii) Internet access on ISDN.

(iii) Providing ISDN connection on priority.

Capacity of Kurebhar Telephone Exchange in Sultanpur

1555. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kurebhar telephone exchange in Sultanpur district of U.P. is running at its optimum capacity and there is a persistent demand of enhancing the line capacity of the exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to enhance the capacity of the exchange to clear the pending backlog of the villages so as to improve the basic communication network in rural areas; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) At present the Kurebhar exchange is running near to its optimum capacity with 162 working lines and 20 persons are in waiting list.

(c) Yes, Sir, depending on the demand the exchange capacity will be expanded.

(d) Majority of the present waiting list will be cleared in next two month's time from the existing capacity of the exchnage.

लोनी क्षेत्र के गांवों में डाक वितरण

1556. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा** :
प्रो0 राम बख्श सिंह वर्मा:

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के गाजियाबाद जनपद के अंतर्गत लोनी क्षेत्र के गांवो में डाक वितरण व्यवस्था बहुत खराब हालत में हैं और पत्र, तार,मनीआर्डर आदि बहुत देर से वितरित किए जाते हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या इस समय लोनी डाकघर में डाक वितरण करने वाले डाकियों की संख्या पर्याप्त नहीं हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार लोनी डाकघर में डाकियों की संख्या बढ़ाने पर विचार कर रही हैं; और तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं?